

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A conjugate comprising a first sequence and a second sequence, wherein the first sequence comprises a nuclear membrane translocation protein ~~or a polynucleotide encoding a nuclear membrane translocation protein~~ and the second sequence comprises Notch intracellular domain (Notch IC) ~~or a polynucleotide encoding Notch IC~~.

2. (Original) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the conjugate is a fusion protein.

3-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to ~~claim 14~~ claim 1, wherein the second sequence further comprises at least one of a RAM domain, a PEST sequence, or an OPA sequence ~~or a polynucleotide encoding a RAM domain, a PEST sequence or an OPA sequence~~.

16-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the first sequence is a herpesvirus VP22 protein (VP22) or a fragment thereof that retains a VP22 transport function.

23. (Original) The conjugate according to claim 22, wherein the first sequence is a full length VP22 sequence.

24. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to claim 22, wherein the fragment of VP22 comprises:

from ~~about~~ amino acid 60 to ~~about~~ amino acid 301 of the full length VP22 sequence (SEQ ID NO:17), or

from ~~about~~ amino acid 159 to ~~about~~ amino acid 301 of the full length VP22 sequence (SEQ ID NO:17).

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the first sequence is an HIV tat protein, ~~or a variant thereof~~ that retains a transport function.

28-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for preparing[[ a]] the conjugate according to claim 1 comprising culturing[[ the]] a host cell of claim 30 transformed with an expression vector, which expression vector comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding the conjugate of claim 1, under conditions which provide for the expression of the conjugate.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) A method of transforming a cell with ~~a protein for Notch signalling modulation or a polynucleotide sequence which encodes therefor, the conjugate according to claim 1, the method comprising introducing the expression vector of claim 29 an expression vector, which expression vector comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding the conjugate of claim 1, into the cell.~~

34. (Original) A composition comprising the conjugate of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)